

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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March 23, 2004

FROM: **NORMAN A. KANOLD**, Interim Assistant County Administrator
Economic Development/Public Services Group

PETER R. HILLS, County Fire Chief/Fire Warden
San Bernardino County Fire Department

SUBJECT: **CONTINUATION OF LOCAL BARK BEETLE EMERGENCY**

RECOMMENDATION: Continue the Emergency Proclamation originally proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors on September 24, 2002, relating to the Bark Beetle infestation and severe drought conditions described in the Emergency Proclamation, which still exists and continues to be an emergency.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On September 24, 2002, the Board adopted a resolution proclaiming a local emergency on public and private lands located in the San Bernardino and Angeles National Forests. The Board has reviewed and continued the proclamation on either 14-day or 21-day intervals as required by California Government Code, and did so as a result of the continued existence of the local emergency.

During a period when the Board meets weekly, the proclamation must be reviewed every 14 days in accordance with Government Code section 8630(c)(2). If the Board does not meet weekly (e.g. due to a holiday), the proclamation must be reviewed every 21 days in accordance with Government Code section 8630(c)(1). The Board last took action to continue the emergency on March 9, 2004, and approval of this recommendation would continue the emergency for an additional period in accordance with Government Code section 8630.

The extreme wildland fires that occurred throughout the County of San Bernardino starting October 21, 2003, actually burned a very small portion of the bark beetle infested forests within San Bernardino County. The vast majority of bark-beetle-infested trees remain standing and still pose an extreme hazard. Based on this hazard, there is a need to continue the existence of the bark beetle infestation local emergency on public and private lands located in the San Bernardino and Angeles National Forests.

Approval of this recommendation would continue the emergency for an additional period in accordance with Government Code section 8630. The staff continues to implement various Board-approved recommendations and continues to work in conjunction with the Mountain Area Safety Task Force and Fire Safe Councils.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS: This item was reviewed and approved by the County Administrative Office (Wayne Thies, Administrative Analyst, 387-5409) on March 11, 2004, and County Counsel (Dennis Tilton, Deputy County Counsel, 387-5246) on March 11, 2004.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: There is no financial impact associated with this action to continue the Emergency Proclamation.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): First, Second and Third

PRESENTER: **Peter Hills** **387-5952**

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors

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